



## National Agricultural Statistics Service, Pennsylvania Field Office

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# Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Week Ending June 18, 2006

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*This report can be found on the Internet at*

[http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\\_by\\_State/Pennsylvania/Publications/Crop\\_Progress\\_and\\_Condition/index.asp](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Pennsylvania/Publications/Crop_Progress_and_Condition/index.asp)

**Excellent Week for Field Work:** Finally, an excellent week for fieldwork. Farmers had no problems getting into the fields this week, since the rain subsided for the majority of the week. Some farmers finally had the chance to finish replanting the corn and soybeans that were lost last month. Since most farmers are now nearing completion of first cutting alfalfa, some rain is needed to start regrowth. Although moisture levels are adequate now, field crops will also need some rain in order for conditions to remain fair. Overall, 6 days were suitable for field work and principal farm activities included spraying pesticides and herbicides, repairing equipment, transplanting tobacco, cutting hay, filling silos, picking strawberries, and planting soybeans.

### PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending June 18, 2006

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
4	32	62	2

**Crops:** Almost all of the corn has emerged at 93 percent, which is 4 percent above the 5-year average. Due to the lack of rain, corn condition is declining slightly, with 57 percent in good or excellent condition. Corn height is now 16 inches, which is 1 percent above both last year and the 5-year average. Soybean planting is at 93 percent complete, 2 percent behind last year at this time, but 9 percent ahead of the 5-year average. Emergence for the soybean crop is at 70 percent, which trails both last year's figure and the 5-year average. Seventy-five percent of the winter wheat crop has turned yellow. The wheat is ripening quickly at 10 percent, far better than any of the previous five years. The wheat crop condition, which slightly improved from last week, was reported as 77 percent good or better. About all of the barley crop has turned yellow, with 56 percent being ripe. Farmers have 17 percent of the barley harvested, 3 percent ahead of the 5-year average. Forty-nine percent of the oat crop is headed, advancing significantly faster than the 5-year average of 38 percent. Oat condition is slightly declining, with sixty-one percent of the oat crop in either good or excellent condition. In comparison with last year, first cutting for alfalfa is 9 percent ahead at 88 percent complete. Alfalfa second cutting is moving along rapidly, already at 12 percent complete. The timothy/clover first cutting is 60 percent complete, 18 percent ahead of the 5-year average. The quality of hay made at this point in time is exceptional, with the conditions reported as 1 percent poor, 21 percent fair, 54 percent good, and 24 percent excellent.

Peaches and apples in Pennsylvania are well on the way to the harvesting stage. All of the apples and 98 percent of the peaches are reported to be in good or excellent condition, each slightly improving from last week.

**Livestock:** The need for rain is really hurting pastures, causing this week's pasture conditions to drastically decline. Conditions were reported as the following: 3 percent very poor, 11 percent poor, 45 percent fair, 36 percent good, and 5 percent excellent.

**U.S. as of June 13, 2006:** Temperatures averaged below-normal east of the Mississippi River. Moderate rainfall across most of the Corn Belt maintained adequate soil moisture, with some New England states seeing local flooding. Mostly dry conditions across the Mississippi Delta and Middle Atlantic Coast caused some crop conditions to decline.

**Corn:** Ninety-eight percent of the crop was at or beyond emergence, the same as last year but 3 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Emergence was at or near 100 percent in most areas. Progress was at or ahead of normal in all the eastern states. Nationwide, crop condition declined slightly, mostly due to hot, dry conditions in the Great Plains.

**Soybeans:** Growers had planted 94 percent of their acreage, the same as last year but 5 points ahead of normal. Seeding was at or ahead of normal in all states, except Indiana. Emergence had begun on 84 percent of the acreage, compared with 83 percent last year and 75 percent for the 5-year average. Progress exceeded the normal pace in Pennsylvania and all adjacent states. However, crop condition did decline slightly in most states.

**Winter Wheat:** Heading advanced to 95 percent, 3 points ahead of last year and 5 points ahead of normal. Most states experienced rapid progress during the week. Heading was at or ahead of normal in all states. Nationwide, twenty-one percent of the acreage had been harvested, 12 points ahead of last year and 10 points ahead of normal.

**Small Grains:** Barley emergence advanced to 98 percent, compared with 96 percent for last year and the 5-year average. Progress was at or ahead of the normal pace in all states except Idaho. Meanwhile, heading, at 4 percent, was 1 point ahead of last year but 1 point behind normal.

Heading had begun on 40 percent of the Nation's oat acreage, 5 points ahead of last year and 6 points ahead of normal. Heading was at or ahead of the normal pace in all states.

# Weather Data For Week Ending June 18, 2006

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - June 18, 2006					
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
<b>Northwest</b>												
Erie	87	46	64	-3	0.00	0	7.24	-1.91	32	640	98	1,301
Franklin	89	43	63	-4	0.00	0	9.08	-0.99	32	595	70	1,297
Meadville	86	45	63	-2	0.00	0	7.68	-2.10	31	603	137	1,278
Mercer	87	42	61	-5	0.00	0	10.49	0.58	33	548	17	1,238
Springboro	88	40	60	-7	0.00	0	10.45	1.75	34	505	-53	1,143
Warren	89	40	61	-5	0.00	0	8.75	-1.72	33	534	29	1,201
<b>North Central</b>												
Bradford Region	85	37	59	-3	0.00	0	8.13	-2.35	34	395	57	1,001
Emporium	89	38	64	2	0.02	1	9.24	-1.35	35	532	143	1,236
Kane	86	33	57	-4	0.00	0	7.39	-3.29	29	326	-6	924
Laporte	80	44	62	-4	0.14	1	9.27	-0.80	36	436	-90	1,083
Lock Haven	89	46	65	-2	0.00	0	8.80	-0.79	30	651	72	1,386
Port Allegany	87	39	60	-4	0.01	1	7.37	-2.68	29	418	13	1,049
Renovo	90	45	64	-3	0.09	2	9.32	-0.27	34	624	45	1,352
Ridgway	87	36	60	-3	0.05	1	8.95	-1.64	35	431	42	1,088
Stevenson Dam	89	38	63	0	0.00	0	6.77	-3.82	28	574	185	1,296
Towanda	89	46	63	-3	0.25	1	6.85	-1.68	31	561	22	1,250
Wellsboro	84	43	60	-2	0.00	0	7.76	-0.38	30	417	65	1,047
Williamsport	88	48	66	-3	0.04	1	7.23	-2.45	30	717	46	1,452
<b>Northeast</b>												
Hawley	85	45	62	-2	0.24	1	13.42	3.68	27	459	39	1,111
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	84	47	64	-3	0.17	1	6.61	-2.39	28	666	49	1,379
Susquehanna	85	47	63	1	0.27	1	9.23	-0.91	37	491	97	1,158
<b>West Central</b>												
Butler	87	40	62	-5	0.00	0	9.71	-0.23	31	570	7	1,283
New Castle	87	42	64	-3	0.00	0	9.43	0.50	34	687	126	1,411
Slippery Rock	87	40	63	-2	0.00	0	10.94	1.38	37	611	108	1,324
<b>Central</b>												
Altoona/Blair	85	43	64	-4	0.86	1	6.16	-3.05	28	653	18	1,382
DuBois	83	41	62	-3	0.00	0	9.14	-1.10	35	538	19	1,218
Lewistown	89	47	66	-3	0.48	1	8.57	-1.11	30	709	-2	1,452
Middletown	88	53	69	-3	0.23	1	6.59	-3.29	25	915	101	1,675
Prince Gallitzi	88	39	59	-6	0.00	0	9.33	-2.23	32	441	-24	1,119
Selinsgrove	86	48	65	-4	0.00	0	8.62	-1.16	28	673	36	1,408
State College	87	47	66	-2	0.00	0	6.60	-2.38	27	700	82	1,440
<b>East Central</b>												
Allentown-Bethel	86	49	67	-3	0.04	1	7.08	-2.90	31	797	73	1,541
Lehighton	85	49	66	-3	0.00	0	9.22	-0.76	34	682	-8	1,407
Matamoras	84	48	64	-4	0.00	0	9.48	-1.09	33	535	-68	1,220
Mt_Pocono	81	46	62	-1	0.00	0	10.74	-0.39	35	456	110	1,115
<b>Southwest</b>												
Pittsburgh/Alle	87	48	66	-2	0.03	1	7.94	-1.75	34	786	148	1,535
Derry	88	38	62	-5	0.00	0	10.87	1.27	31	594	17	1,311
Myersdale	85	37	59	-8	0.00	0	8.55	-2.04	36	344	-218	991
Mount Pleasant	86	43	62	-3	0.05	1	9.97	-1.13	33	561	70	1,273
Pittsburgh Intl	86	47	65	-4	0.00	0	7.82	-1.08	31	758	77	1,495
Connellsville	88	45	64	-5	0.07	2	10.36	-0.16	40	706	-2	1,442
Waynesburg	88	40	63	-5	0.00	0	6.91	-2.78	31	612	3	1,342
<b>South Central</b>												
Biglerville	87	50	68	-4	0.00	0	7.90	-1.38	29	795	-14	1,552
Everett	85	42	58	-10	0.05	1	8.87	-0.06	32	448	-162	1,175
Hanover	87	47	66	-5	0.00	0	6.90	-2.38	30	767	-42	1,518
Harrisburg_AP	88	50	68	-4	0.11	1	7.49	-2.39	28	873	52	1,633
South Mountain	84	45	63	-5	0.22	1	8.62	-0.59	32	547	-81	1,264
York	88	46	66	-5	0.02	1	6.55	-3.35	30	765	-53	1,510
<b>Southeast</b>												
Green Lane	86	51	67	-2	0.00	0	9.95	0.25	29	800	123	1,548
Hamburg	87	53	68	2	0.09	1	7.17	-4.42	33	837	247	1,583
West_Chester	86	44	65	-6	0.08	1	9.29	-1.41	27	722	-74	1,464
Lancaster	87	51	68	-2	0.06	1	9.30	-0.38	28	829	101	1,583
Neshaminy Falls	85	51	66	-5	0.36	1	11.77	0.95	28	715	-7	1,465
New Holland	87	51	68	-2	0.02	1	6.74	-2.94	28	836	108	1,586
Philadelphia	86	58	71	-2	0.04	1	9.57	0.02	24	1,047	170	1,824
Philadelphia NE	86	56	71	-2	0.20	1	11.91	2.36	27	1,022	145	1,794
Reading	87	52	68	-2	0.00	0	8.13	-2.68	28	870	170	1,621
Valley Forge Na	88	47	67	-5	0.00	0	8.65	-1.41	27	813	-43	1,565
Willow Grove	84	54	69	-2	0.04	1	8.83	-1.99	29	886	164	1,648

DFN = Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation (rainfall or melted snow or ice) and pan evaporation in inches.

Precipitation days = days with precipitation of .01 inch or more.

Air temperatures in degrees fahrenheit.

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# Internet Reporters' Comments, By County:

Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.

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**ADAMS COUNTY, Judy A. Behney (FSA)** - Adams County continues to be dry. No rainfall was received in the county this past week and daytime temperatures are increasing. Crops are starting to show some drought stress. Adams County is still in drought status.

Corn and soybean planting is just about completed, except where hay and barley are being taken off and double-cropped. Wheat is coloring fast and will soon be harvested in a few weeks. Some wheat will be double-cropped.

Hay continues to be made. If we don't receive some rainfall soon we will not have an additional harvest of hay later this summer.

Sweet cherries are being harvested in the county and growers are reporting a good crop. Tart cherries are coloring fast and harvest will be starting mid next week. We will have a full cherry crop this year. Strawberries continue to be harvested in the county.

Apples are progressing and some apples are the size of golf balls. Some sprays used for thinning had to be re-applied by fruit growers due to cold temperatures when the first application was made. Fruit growers will still have to hand-thin for fresh varieties.

Overall, our crops are OK for now, but we need some moisture to continue growing. Storms can also change the status of crops in a short period of time if we get thunderstorms.

**ADAMS COUNTY, Thomas Kerr** - It was cool and dry at the start of week, but it ended up very hot and dry. Rain is needed for all crops. Hot sunny weather is pushing the tart cherry crop. We have good weather for making hay, but pastures are becoming dormant.

**CAMBRIA COUNTY, Dolly Little (FSA)** - Warmer temperatures toward the end of the week. The crops could use some rain. The oats are beginning to head, the wheat is yellow, and the hay is being put in the barn.

**CENTRE COUNTY, Dick Decker** - No rain this week, so things are dry. Good weather for making hay.

**COLUMBIA COUNTY, Dan McCarty (AgChoice)** - It's starting to get dry. We could really use some rain. Crops are looking good overall, and a lot of hay was made in the last week.

**COLUMBIA COUNTY, John O. Yocum** - Excellent weather for making hay, but we will need rain soon.

**CRAWFORD COUNTY, Ron McCorkle (NRCS)** - Excellent week for making hay. Round bales became part of the rural landscape this week, adding to the postcard scenery.

**LANCASTER COUNTY, Jeffrey Graybill (EXT)** - Corn is really taking off; some timely rain would be very welcomed.

**SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer** - Very good week for plant growth, haymaking, and winter grain ripening. The corn and soybeans have made significant growth. However, there are some problems with stands and weed control. There were a few reports of fields being replanted and resprayed. Excellent quality hay was made this week and several farmers have started with second cutting alfalfa, again of excellent quality. The main activities for the week were haymaking, spraying herbicides, and planting corn and soybeans.

**WESTMORELAND COUNTY, John Lohr (FSA)** - With the dry and warmer weather, it was finally the first good hay harvesting week of the season. Farmers are replanting some corn and soybeans that did not do well with May's cold and wet conditions. Most crops are looking real good.

**PA Crop Progress for Week Ending June 18, 2006**

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn, emerged	93	96	89
Corn average height, inches	16	15	15
Barley, turning yellow	96	92	88
Barley, ripe	56	38	45
Barley, harvested	17	12	14
Wheat, turning yellow	75	31	38
Wheat, ripe	10	0	0
Oats, heading or headed	49	42	38
Soybeans, planted	93	95	84
Soybeans, emerged	70	86	72
Tobacco, transplanted	95	85	80
Alfalfa, 1st cutting	88	79	73
Alfalfa, 2nd cutting	12	7	7
Timothy clover, 1st cutting	60	53	42

**PA Crop Condition for Week Ending June 18, 2006**

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	1	5	37	34	23
Wheat	0	1	22	56	21
Oats	0	2	37	50	11
Soybeans	0	2	43	41	14
Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures stand	0	5	18	50	27
Timothy clover stand	2	8	31	49	10
Quality of hay made	0	1	21	54	24
Pasture	3	11	45	36	5
Peaches	0	0	2	52	46
Apples	0	0	0	50	50

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